

SPOKE

Conestoga College, Kitchener

SEPTEMBER 27, 1999

What's Inside



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The big cheese

Pizza Pizza the new hot spot at Doon

By Lesley Turnbull

The new food service director for Conestoga College thinks Conestoga should have the number 1 food service at a college in Ontario.

"I do think that the number 1 college in Ontario deserves the number 1 food service and we try to keep up with that image," said John Kast.

There have been major changes over the past year, he said.

Beaver Foods has introduced Pizza Pizza in Dooners to replace the house program called Pizza Pie.

Kast said Pizza Pizza is doing so well that they can't keep up with the demand. They should have all



John Kast, food service director, shows off the new Pizza Pizza counter in Dooners. (Photo by Lesley Turnbull)

of the kinks worked out within a week.

"When you have such a demand, you have to work out the logistics.

It just takes a little time," he said.

Hours for Pizza Pizza have been extended 15 minutes to 1:45 p.m. to compensate for the 1:30 p.m.

rush. Students who attend classes from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. can't eat lunch before class and used to find most lunch services unavailable when they got to the cafeteria after class at 1:30 p.m.

"There might be pizzas in the cabinets until 2 p.m. because the holding time for a pizza is between 20 minutes and 30 minutes."

A year and a half ago Mr. Sub was introduced to the college so this year Sub to Go, another house program, has been almost completely eliminated.

"We still make Sub to Go submarines but we make them ahead of time and put them in a cooler in Dooners," said Kast.

See Pizza - page 2

DSA deals with other issues

Compiled by Brad Dugard

The Doon Student Association had a busy week organizing the I Mother Earth concert, but they still managed to deal with some other issues. Here is a sample.

Walking Safer

The DSA has donated six winter jackets to the Walk Safe program. Total cost for the jackets was \$690.

The jackets feature reflective lettering on the back to identify members of the program and to help with visibility at night.

Sept. 14 executive meeting:

United Way

Eleanor Conlin, chair of academic research and co-ordinator of the United Way fund-raising campaign, spoke to the executive about DSA involvement in the



Jenn Hussey (right), DSA vice-president operations, presented Leigh-Anne Smith, Walksafe co-ordinator, with a new jacket on Sept. 15.

(Photo by Brad Dugard)

1999 United Way campaign.

She told the group that the goal

for this year's fund-raising drive will be \$30,000.

She said the DSA could help by either making a donation or by increasing fees for services by 25 cents and donating the extra income to the United Way.

The executive made no decision, but the issue will be discussed at a future meeting.

Bye-bye to book sale

Jenn Hussey, vice-president of operations, reminded the executive that the DSA would not be holding a second-semester book sale because the college was preparing to take over the service.

"It is not that we were trying to get out of the business, but rather that the school wanted to get into it," she said.

See DSA - page 2

Smokers to get shelter

By Beverley Grondin

Smokers at Conestoga College will soon be able to find shelter from the elements.

Physical resources will be overseeing the installation of two outdoor awnings within the next couple of weeks, said Barry Milner, manager of physical resources at Conestoga College.

One awning will be installed against the A-wing, across from the woodworking building, and the other will be located just outside the main doors by the main

cafeteria, Milner said.

The decision to build the outdoor awnings was prompted by a recommendation from the college's task force on outdoor smoking, which is chaired by Kim Radigan, health and safety co-ordinator at the college. She said the purpose for the awnings is to provide smokers with more areas to go, away from main doorways.

"We get a lot of complaints from students and employees trying to get through doorways (blocked) with smokers," said Radigan.

Once the awnings are installed, the task force will monitor complaints to determine whether the awnings are being used instead of the doorways, she said.

"Based on complaints received, or the number of smokers, (the task force) will see if we should designate more non-smoking doorways, or add more shelters," said Radigan.

Al Hunter, the college's supervisor of security services, said he thinks it is a good idea to put up the awnings.

See Smokers - page 2

Labatt is on tap at the Roost

By Walerian Czarnecki

The Condor Roost Sports Bar has a new sponsor, which means it now has Labatt on tap, rather than the local Brick brewery beer.

The Roost was looking for the best deal for the college as well as good support for scholarships for varsity sports, said Ian James, manager of athletics and recreation.

Taste was also a major factor in the change.

"Students did not like Brick's product," said James. "The students just did not take to it."

Labatt will be better for the student and business community, said James. There is a verbal agreement between Labatt and the Roost that Labatt will support the Roost with such things as door prizes at special events and the Roost will buy Labatt beer, he said.

"Students like it (Labatt's) better," he said. "The old-timer hockey players (also) like Labatt's."

Karen Malo, who works at the Roost, said that students are happy with Labatt, and sales are better.

See Roost - page 2

Safety of rides still an issue

By Nicole Furlong

Would you put your life in the hands of a stranger? Every time you ride an amusement park ride, you are.

Recently there has been a rash of amusement park ride accidents. Four people were killed in incidents in the United States and several people were injured at the Canadian National Exhibition.

On Sept. 1, 16 children were injured after the Wave Swinger, a popular ride at the CNE, came crashing to the ground. It is still not known what caused the accident.

According to a Toronto Star article Sept. 2, two inspectors and a regional manager were sent to the CNE the night of the accident to pursue an investigation.

The article also reported that accidents at amusement parks are rare because of the stringent safety standards that exist in Ontario.

Because of these incidents, however, the safety of rides was a common concern among parents at the Cambridge fall fair, which was held at Dickson Park, Sept. 9-12.

Nellie Encina, a visitor to the fair, said she only lets her son go on rides she has been on before.

"I'm being extra cautious right now because of what happened at the CNE," she said.

Encina added she always watches the operators to make sure they are paying attention to their ride.

The fair featured approximately 18 rides, which are owned and operated by Campbell Amusements Company, based in Rockton, Ont.

The company travels to five provinces, including Ontario, each year.

Tom Cox, office manager for Campbell Amusements, said some rides are 30 years old while others are new.

The rides are refurbished in the off-season (October to April), and any time it's necessary. The rides are stored at their head office during the winter months in storage units.

Set-up time for each ride is a day and they can be taken down in as quickly as five or six hours.

Cox said there are many safety precautions taken everyday to ensure rider safety. These precautions include keeping a daily log to keep track of maintenance, a list of safety checks and testing the rides each day before the fair opens.

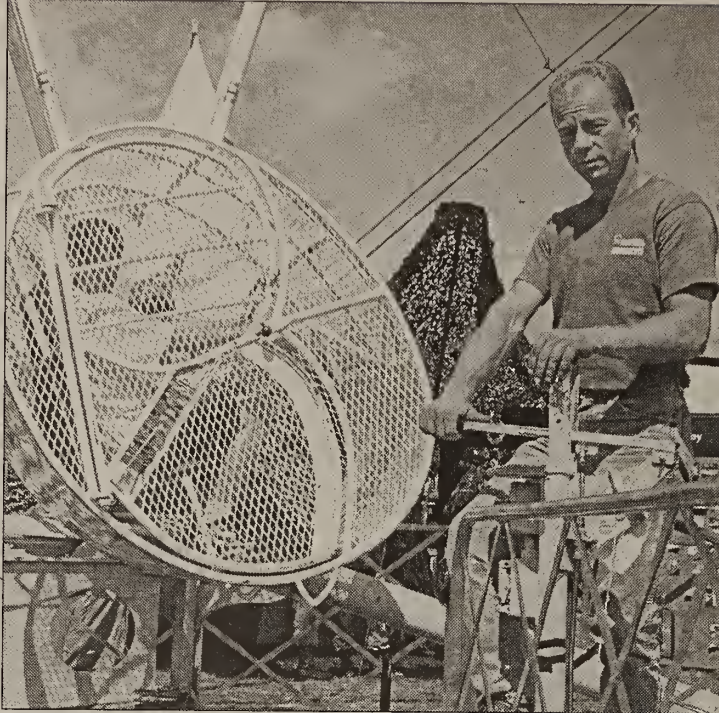
He added his staff is very conscious of safety.

"We're not in the business of giving people a thrill-ride experience," he said. "We're in the business of safe, family entertainment."

When asked about his thoughts on the CNE incident, Cox said it is unfortunate, but no matter how many safety precautions are taken, the unforeseen can happen.

"Conklin Shows (who owns the rides used at the CNE) is the number 1 company in Canada," Cox said. "I'm sure they are not in the business of running unsafe machines."

Derick Brooker, a 36-year-old Campbell Amusements employee, insisted that safety precautions are taken by his company.



Derick Brooker, a Campbell Amusement ride operator, prepares to launch the Rocko Plane at the Cambridge Fall Fair on Sept. 11

(Photo by Nicole Furlong)

"Every pin, nut and cable is checked every day," he said.

However, Brooker had reservations about how much time is spent checking machines.

He said operators are given half an hour to check their machines at the start of each day. He takes twice that long.

"If more people were like me, I don't think things like what happened at the CNE would happen as often," he said.

No special training is required to operate a ride. Operators are given instructions on how to work, maintain, set up and take down rides by

management when they are hired. However, operators are monitored closely to ensure they are running the machines properly.

Mike Schroeder, another Cambridge fair visitor, said he felt quite comfortable about letting his daughter go on the rides.

"On the whole I don't think there's anything wrong with them," he said.

Referring to the CNE incident, Schroeder said, "It's like going camping and a bear attacks, or driving on the 401 and getting into an accident. You can't live your life around one incident."

Shelters will benefit smokers

Continued from page one...

"We are a no-smoking facility, but the college recognizes there are a number of students and faculty who smoke," said Hunter.

The college is trying to create an attractive area for smokers and to keep them from no-smoking doors.

The awnings are being put up even though security has not received as many complaints about smokers hanging out in the

I would like it if people obeyed the rules and stayed clear of the no-smoking entrances.

Al Hunter

supervisor of security services

designated smoke-free entrances as they did last year.

Hunter said all staff, including security, are responsible for monitoring the smoke-free entrances, which are doors 1 and 5.

Although there are no fines for being caught smoking in these doorways, Hunter said that he is hoping for more consideration from the smokers.

Radigan said that she believes the shelters will be beneficial for smokers, especially at the back of the building.

"The entrances back there don't tend to have overhead covering," she said.

DSA discusses etiquette

continued from page one...

Make that a virgin:

During a discussion of office and event etiquette, a question of whether or not DSA event staff should be allowed to drink at the event arose.

Patty Stokes, entertainment manager, said executive members should not be drinking while helping with an event.

"My concern is that being the one responsible for the event," she said, "if something out of the ordinary happened (and helpers are drunk) then we are in a bind."

However, Mike Harris, vice-president of education, said he thinks the rules should not be so

rigid.

"We have to be able to enjoy the event ourselves," he said.

Jack Fletcher, faculty adviser, said that the fact that the executive was discussing the issue showed a great deal of responsibility.

He proposed that the event staff be allowed to "have a couple" but not get drunk once all their responsibilities are completed.

Doon's Pig Pen

It is that time of year again.

The Sanctuary is becoming a trash heap because people are leaving their food trays and garbage on the tables and on the floor.

"Every year it is the same thing:

people don't put their garbage away," said Becky Boertien, DSA business manager.

She said the renovations to the Sanctuary included a tile floor because spilled food and drink had made a mess of the carpet.

She said the DSA would first try to educate students about the problem before they take other measures to get people to put their garbage away.

"We might have to resort to (closing the Sanctuary), but that is a short-term solution that doesn't last."

She said she wants people to know that the Sanctuary isn't a restaurant where people will clean off the tables.

Beer choice matter of preference

Continued from page one...

"We're selling a lot more pitchers," said Malo.

Nathan Stevens, a second-year robotics student, said the choice of beer is a matter of preference and he accepts the change.

"It increases revenue for the college and provides a common beer for people," said Stevens.

However, Cameron Bell, a second-year robotics student, said he likes the taste of Brick beer.

"We should be supporting our local micro-brewery," said Bell.

Beer is not the only thing that the Roost provides. There will be many special events in store for students at the Roost, after varsity hockey games and other sports events to encourage students to come to the recreation centre to see what it offers them, said James.

"We have the Oktoberfest soccer game here," he said. "We will tie it in to the beer tapping at the Roost."

James also highlighted the foosball tournament to be held on Nov. 17 and the Monday night football events. The Roost can be rented out for birthday parties and other social occasions, as long as alcohol is purchased from the bar.

James would like to see students coming up to the Roost for more than just beer. He would like to see the Roost, as well as the rest of the recreation centre, as a good choice for a social spot to hang out.

In terms of business, James said that the Roost is a good enough bar for the college.

"We already have a sports bar, ideal for college events," said James. "Why not make use of it?"

Additional dishes being added to menu

continued from page one...

Beginning the week of Sept. 20, wraps will be available.

An additional dish is going to be added to the menu at the Market Grill in the main cafeteria. Hot food like lasagna, shepherd's pie or chili on a bun will be featured two or three times a week.

The original menu will still be offered Monday to Friday and grill hours have also been extended an extra 15 minutes until 1:45 p.m.

Due to a shortage in staff, the hot

dog and taco carts were not available during the first two weeks of school. Since more staff has been hired, the cart is expected to be operating during the week of Sept. 20.

Soft tacos will be featured instead of hard tacos, but if enough students ask for hard tacos then they will be offered as well.

"After all, we are here to serve the students," said Kast. "That is our main purpose."

Kast said there will be even more

improvements made to the food service at Conestoga next year.

A new cafeteria and serving area is being built at the Waterloo campus.

"Unfortunately, it is not ready yet, so we are serving the students in a make-shift lunch room," said Kast.

Once the food service staff is able to move into the new cafeteria, he said better service will be available to the students, faculty and staff at the Waterloo campus.

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Conestoga wants degree powers

By Phil Wright

Skills shortages due to misconceptions

Societal attitudes as well as denying colleges degree-granting powers are responsible for Canada's shortage in skilled employees, said Conestoga's president in a speech at the Waterloo Inn on Sept. 15.

John Tibbits was the first speaker for the 1999-2000 Communitalk series, presented by Communitalk Association Inc., of Canada's Technology Triangle.

Tibbits' speech was titled Responding to the Urgent Need for Skilled Employees Within Canada's Technology Triangle.

The event was attended by 150 leaders from business, industry, local government and educational institutions.

Tibbits spoke about the increasing needs of local business and industry for both top-quality graduates and ongoing employee skill development.

The shortage of skilled employees needs to be addressed by broad-based training and education, he said.

"Countries that will be the most successful are those that can train a broad range of people."

There are a number of initiatives undertaken by Conestoga, said Tibbits, that are designed to continue improving the quality of the school and to address skill shortages.

Major strides have been made in Guelph where the campus is being

turned into an automated manufacturing and industrial skills training centre.

Doon campus in Kitchener is expanding more into machining and information and engineering technology.

A 40,000 square-foot addition at the Waterloo Information Technology Centre opened on Sept. 7.

"Our intention is to make this the number 1 information technology training centre in Canada," said Tibbits. "That's realizable. We can do it and we'll do it."

Such initiatives have increased Conestoga's capacity in machining, information technology and robotics by more than 1,000 students in the past year, said Tibbits.

A large concern in terms of research and promotion is the fact there are some serious attitudinal problems in society with regard to skills, said Tibbits.

Another major issue, said Tibbits, is that there exists a "huge gender issue in the skills area. There is a tremendous underrepresentation of women in the skilled areas."

These issues are being reinforced by school boards that are moving away from skill trades to the more academic disciplines, he said.

A skill dialogue involving Conestoga, Human Resources

Development Canada and Communitalk has been undertaken, said Tibbits. Discussion will focus on information technology and advanced manufacturing technology designed to facilitate dialogue with employers.

Preliminary results from the skills dialogue indicate there is a concern on the part of employers, with the integration of technical skills in conjunction with business skills, said Tibbits.

Also troubling, said Tibbits, is that women are not represented in significant numbers, which obviously limits entry-level employees and the pool of skilled workers.

"We have to find ways to change those attitudes in schools," said Tibbits.

David Leis, general manager of the Kitchener-Waterloo Chamber of Commerce, agrees with Tibbits that there is a serious shortage of skilled workers.

"There is a lack of skilled people in many different areas," he said. "It appears to be related to advanced manufacturing. It's not just software development but robotics and tool and die. It's so bad, the region could hire 2,000 tomorrow, if available."

Preliminary findings of the project indicate that "it is absolutely incredible what people don't know out there, with regard to

skilled trades," said Tibbits.

The old misconception that skilled trades are dirty, isolated, dangerous and low paying still persist, said Tibbits.

Issues such as the lack of prestige in skilled trades and that skilled trades attract only students with low marks also remain, said Tibbits.

Teachers, parents, fellow students as well as the media, said Tibbits, form these opinions.

As a solution to such attitudinal problems, Tibbits suggested allowing colleges to offer applied degree programs.

The opinion that "any degree in any program is better than just having a diploma" persists, said Tibbits, and enabling colleges to offer degrees would not only alter misconceptions about skilled trades, but would attract stronger students to the college system.

Despite such misconceptions, colleges can compete with universities, said Tibbits. As an example, all post-secondary institutions in Canada use the identical division exam in the registered nursing program. Using statistics from the Canadian Nurses Association compiled from the June 1998 exam, Conestoga's pass rate was 98 per cent, while the pass rate for Ontario's university graduates was

88 per cent, and the Ontario pass rate for university and college students combined was 85 per cent.

In the future, all nurses will require a university degree, said Tibbits, and Conestoga will have to form an alliance with McMaster University.

Backed with such evidence, Tibbits said, colleges should be allowed to compete for pure vocational training.

"We've come a long way, but we're being held back."

Leis concurs with Tibbits about the misconceptions of skilled trades.

"There's a misconception that success is about having a white collar," said Leis. "Skilled trades need some recognition and prestige."

Some programming offered at Conestoga is just as rigorous as at university, said Tibbits.

Further, said Tibbits, Ontario is one of the few areas in the world where you can't get applied degrees.

In British Columbia, United States, Alberta, England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland and New Zealand you can get applied degrees.

It's a political issue, said Tibbits, and with the support of the community, Conestoga needs to become a polytechnical institute.

Changing both attitudes and validation is fundamental in battling the skills shortage, said Tibbits. Comprehensive marketing and promotion is also key.

Free-trade conference coming to University of Guelph Sept. 24

By Anna Sajfert

Citizens Concerned about Free Trade (CCAFT) will speak at Guelph and Waterloo universities about global capitalism and Canada's role in it.

The conferences, titled New World Order, begin Sept. 24 at the University of Guelph's Thornborough building at 3:30 p.m.

David Orchard and Marjaleena Repo will appear at the two conferences, said Gordana Yovanovich, professor of Spanish studies at the University of Guelph. She added each university has its own speaker.

Orchard and Repo are both outspoken critics on the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), Free Trade Agreement (FTA) and Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI) issues. They are co-founders of Citizens Concerned About Free Trade.

John McMurtry, a professor of philosophy at the University of Guelph, will open the conference with a half-hour lecture, Globalization and the Economics of Life and Death. He is the author of Unequal Freedoms: The Global Market as an Ethical System and The Cancer Stage of Capitalism.

His speech will be followed by David Orchard's lecture, The Fight for Canada, at 4 p.m. He is the author of the best selling

book, The Fight for Canada: Four Centuries of Resistance to American Expansionism.

Orchard placed second in the Conservative party's federal leadership campaign in 1998 with a strong anti-globalization policy.

Keith Ellis's speech, Cuba's Encounter with the Changing Faces of Imperialism, begins at 4:30 p.m. He teaches Latin American literature and culture at the University of Toronto and received an honorary doctorate from the University of Havana.

Ellis recently published two books, Cuba's Nicolas Guillen and Nicolas Guillen: New Love Poetry.

Marjaleena Repo's speech Furthering the Goals of the New World Order: Media and the War starts at 5 p.m. Repo is editor of True North: The Voice of Canadian Independence, a media critic and freelance writer with a special interest in national and international justice issues.

Michael Mandel's speech, The Legal Institutions of the New World Order: Global Democracy or Might is Right, begins at 5:30 p.m. He teaches law at Osgoode Hall Law School at York University in Toronto and is the author of The Charter of Rights and the Legalization of Politics in Canada.

"Political parties, governments, churches, courts and other traditional institutions seem to be los-

ing their power. Who is in charge?" Yovanovich said. "Who will benefit from the free trade ideology? Will countries lose their sovereignty with NAFTA and United Europe?"

The University of Waterloo conference is scheduled for Oct. 6. Carl Jacobsen, professor of political science and director of the Eurasian security studies Organized Research Unit (ORU) at Carleton University, and Serge Trifkovic, a public affairs consultant and professor of Balkan studies at Rose Hill College in Aiken, S. C., will speak at 4 and 5 p.m.

Their lectures are titled The Kosovo/a Crisis: Conflicting Principles, Conflicting Agendas; the NATO War and From Westphalia to Kosovo: National Sovereignty vs. Gnostic Ideologies, along with Orchard and Repo.

Each speaker will be given 20 to 25 minutes for his/her presentation, with no breaks scheduled. Every presentation will be followed by a general discussion period.

Yovanovich said she planned the Guelph conferences for late September because students have time to attend.

"It is also a good way to start a new school year: students come to universities to learn and to begin to think critically," she said. "The five speakers are some of Canadian finest minds."

Japanese students end their visit to Conestoga

By Walerian Czarnecki

The seventh group of students from Nova Corporation in Japan has left Conestoga College and Canada after an intensive two-week English language program.

The students came to Conestoga College from Osaka as part of an international program that gives them an opportunity to be completely engulfed in the English language and Canadian culture.

Nova Corporation is a private educational company with 280 schools in Japan with an excess of 220,000 students who study languages and English is the main one, said Larry Rechsteiner, director of the international education office.

"The Nova academy is a two-week program that augments what they've done in Japan," said Rechsteiner.

"In Japan they have studied English, now they can do it in a real-life setting where English is the working language of the people."

Every morning the 13 students attended English classes and in the afternoon they attended activities related to those classes to encourage communication with the students, said Rechsteiner.

There were trips for the students to various places in Toronto, Niagara Falls, Grand Bend and various sites around Waterloo Region, such as St. Jacobs and Doon Heritage Crossroads. They also lived with home-stay families that help them with their English.

"It makes a very good experience for the students," said Rechsteiner.

Instructor Carolyn Whatley said that all the students had improved their language skills to some extent since coming to Canada.

The students learn communication and sub-cultural expressions rather than grammar.

"They like expressions and idioms," she said.

The students enjoyed their stay in Canada and will miss Canada, said Miho Arai, one of the Nova students.

"I like Canada and Canadian people. They are very kind," said Arai.

Natsuko Komiya, a Nova student, said she likes Canada's nature and the size of Canadian houses, which seem very large when compared to those of Japan.

Keiko Nagatami said that two weeks was not enough for her, and she wished she could have stayed longer.

Nagatami said she enjoyed the people, the natural landscape and the wildlife that Canada offers.

The size of the buildings also impressed her. Nagatami said she appreciated the safety that women have in Canada, as that is important in her native Japan.

Her only regret was that she did not meet more people, she said.

"I would have liked to talk to a lot more Conestoga College students," she said. "But I never got the chance."

Editorial

Universities' elitist attitude unjustified

Colleges in Ontario are not receiving the respect they deserve from universities.

The universities' elitist attitude was evident recently when an invitation to Humber College to play in a university tournament was withdrawn.

Despite winning four of the last eight Canadian Colleges Athletic Association men's basketball titles, Humber College was told they were no longer welcome to play in an exhibition tournament with the University of McGill, University of Prince Edward Island and University of Ottawa. The invitation for a November tournament was extended six months ago.

During his 12 years of coaching at Humber, Mike Katz has led his teams to a record of 223 wins and 43 losses.

Doug Fox, Humber's athletic director, told the Globe and Mail he found out Humber's spot had been filled by the University of Western Ontario Mustangs when he was contacted by telephone by University of Ottawa coach Jack Eisenmann.

"He (Eisenmann) just told me that a lot of universities didn't want to play us because we're a community college," Fox told the Globe. "The situation reflects a mind set within the university community that neither education nor athletics at the community college level should be regarded as serious endeavours."

It is possible that some of the universities in the tournament were nervous that a college might defeat them.

But it's more likely that the reason for rescinding the invitation was the elitist attitude of the universities.

McGill University basketball coach Ken Schildroth displayed this point of view when he told the Globe, "It's two different streams, two totally different types of people, two totally different types of athletes."

As Conestoga president John Tibbits commented, "It was the ultimate in arrogance."

Some college programs are just as demanding as university programs. It's time the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities permits Ontario colleges to offer applied degree programs and grant applied degrees.

Academically, colleges can and do provide university grads with specific job skills, yet these skills cannot be recognized with a degree.

The opinion still exists that anybody possessing a degree is more intelligent than somebody who has a diploma.

Tibbits said many people think the degree is the currency of the realm and as long as colleges in Ontario cannot grant them, they will not be seen in the same light as universities.

"If we had applied degrees, we would have greater stature," he said.

Colleges can compete with universities.

Specific training given to some college students has helped them to outperform university standards. Last year, Conestoga nursing students averaged a higher passing rate on their provincial exam than Ontario universities, with 98 per cent of them succeeding.

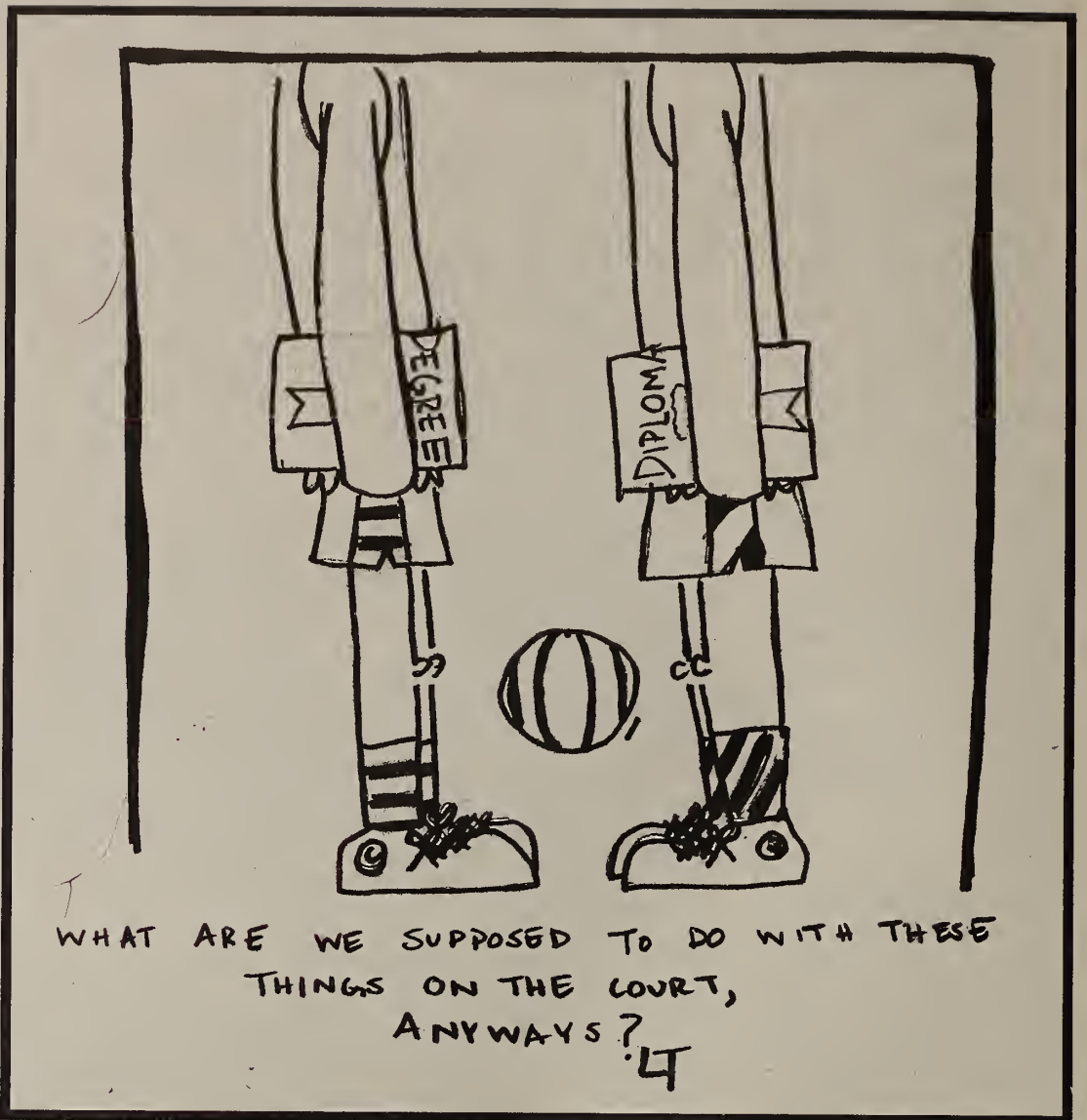
Ontario is one of the few places in the world where college students cannot receive applied degrees. In Alberta, B.C., the U.S. and Great Britain they can get applied degrees.

The challenge is for Conestoga, with the support of the community and other community colleges, to convince the provincial government to recognize the rigorous work done by college students. It's a political decision. And it is time to change the attitudes and misconceptions about colleges. What is needed are polytechnical institutes.

Tibbits summed up the attitude Humber faced quite nicely. Judging by some of their quotes in the Globe and Mail, he said the university officials look like they should have been working at plantations of the 1600s.

"And I don't mean working at them, I mean running them," he said.

It is time for Ontario colleges to get some recognition and for universities to get their noses out of the air.



Brain drain: Graduates don't care about borders, they only care about finding a job

Much has been made lately of the so-called brain drain from Canada into the States. And while this issue may perplex politicians and alarm the demographers of this country, to the youth, the drain is not an issue.

It happens: so what's the big deal?

This problem exists only in the minds of those who are trapped in history. It doesn't exist for those who are living in the realities of today's world.

Globalization is often a term used to describe massive, multinational corporations, not people. But the same trend seen in industry is happening to people.

I am a global citizen.

Most youth, those under 30, live in a society that, unlike any society before, ignores traditional "national" boundaries and has replaced the lines on maps with a type of intellectual or social-group distinction.

Let me explain. By ignoring the



Brad Dugard

social and political divisions that divide this world, and instead, communicating with people of similar interest, Gen X have effectively become global citizens.

I am more likely to talk to someone in Prague than my neighbour three doors down — because I have things in common with the person in Prague, as opposed to my neighbour that I have nothing in common with.

The Internet is the main tool of this global society, but other media aid in this social globalization.

The cable channel Show Case is a result of this evolution. Televisions without borders, as their slogan goes, is describing more than cool programming. What it is saying is, we believe there are many things of interest to

our viewers happening outside of their geographic boundaries.

This change has many ramifications beyond the common generation gap between age groups.

This generation will bring the world into a very different time.

Local news, whether on the television, radio or newspaper, is an outdated concept.

The death of the local news will be replaced by global news. What affects the people of East Timor does impact me. I want to know.

However, this is not to say that every item of local news is worthless. On the contrary, until such time as those worthless geographic borders are replaced with a new system, society will demand to know how what happens locally will affect them.

Just don't expect undivided attention and don't expect today's youth to be loyal to a geographic location.

To new graduates it just doesn't matter.

SPOKE

Keeping Conestoga College connected

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Most students say that fitness tests important

By Jeanette Everall

The validity of physical fitness testing is now on trial after the nation's highest court deemed them unnecessary in a recent ruling.

The unanimous Supreme Court of Canada decision handed down on Sept. 9 found the B.C. government showed insufficient evidence that a tough fitness standard was needed to identify firefighters capable of working safely and efficiently.

The case involved 33-year-old Tawney Meiorin, a B.C. firefighter, who lost her job after failing the running portion of a physical fitness test. After winning her sexual discrimination suit, Meiorin can now go back to fighting forest fires, but the outcome of her case will have sweeping impact nationally.

Many provincial governments use fitness tests for a variety of occupations, including police work, firefighting and the military. It is unknown how many fitness tests will have to be scrapped because of the court's decision.

Students polled in a random survey on Sept. 16 were asked whether or not fitness tests should be used to screen potential employees. Students interviewed agreed the tests are necessary for occupations like firefighting, but some students felt there should be different tests for women.

Heidi Parsons, a law and security administration student, said the tests should exist, but they should take into consideration the differences between men and women.



Parsons

"If it's a test geared to the job

Campus question:
Should employers continue to use fitness tests to screen potential employees?

there should be one standard, but if it's a physical fitness test there should be a slight difference because women can't meet the same standards as men physically," she said.

Darlene Lavigne, an information specialist at Conestoga, agreed with Parsons' sentiment, saying that women should have different requirements for physical testing.

"Fitness tests are necessary, but they might not be the same for women as for men," said Lavigne. "A woman should still have to do fitness testing, but not at the same level as a man."

First-year accounting student Amanda Briand said the tests should remain and there should be one standard for both men and women.

"If guys have to do it and the girls can't do it then they are not suited to be firefighters," said Briand. "It's about how much you can do physically not whether or not you are a girl or a guy. Taking away the tests is a threat to society."

Ahmad Ismail, a second-year broadcasting student, said males



Lavigne



Briand

and females should be expected to meet the same level for occupations like firefighting.

"There is a certain standard that you can't compromise when it comes to that type of occupation. Male or female, there is a certain level of physical fitness that they should have to be able to perform their job well," he said.

Nick Valeriote, a first-year micro-computer administration student, said physical testing should be required for jobs such as firefighting and policing because their jobs are specific to fitness.

"If they can't meet the requirements," he said, "they could cause problems."

Matt Turcotte, a second-year broadcasting student, said he thinks the tests should continue to be used.

"Firefighters can't be a liability on the job because they could end up hurting people that they are working with, not just the people they are trying to save," said Turcotte.

Steve Lemay, a second-year broadcasting student, said it is important to have the strongest and most physically fit people performing jobs like firefighting.

"I think they should continue with the fitness tests if the job has to do with physical fitness," he said. "If you have people who are under qualified to fight fires, lives are going to be put at risk."



Ismail



Valeriote



Turcotte

For the love of music



Errol Blackwood led the Errol Blackwood Reggae Band as they played at Fiddler's Green Irish Pub in Cambridge, Sept. 18.

(Photo by Brian Gall)

Letters to the Editor

Share your opinion

Spoke welcomes letters to the Editor. E-mail spoke@conestogac.on.ca or just drop them off in the Spoke office in room 4B14

Health-care workers should get their shots

If health-care workers are serious about protecting their elderly patients then they should gladly volunteer for flu-shot vaccinations.

Such a recommendation is typical of testimony at a coroner's inquest, that began Sept. 8, into last winter's 25 flu-related deaths at Kitchener's Central Park Lodge.

The deaths at the 240-bed nursing home, one of the largest such facilities in the region, were due to a severe strain of the influenza A Sydney virus.

The nursing home deaths occurred last winter between Dec. 25 and Jan. 23. The average age of those who died was 90.

An investigation by an infectious disease specialist brought in by the coroner's office determined the deadly flu was the result of a Dec. 23 Christmas party held at the home.

The Ministry of Health does not mandate flu shots for staff, but recommends immunization rates of 70 per cent for staff and 95 per cent for residents, according to testimony at the inquest.

Bill Jeffrey, Conestoga's dean of health sciences/community services, said the flu shots are not legislated, but the government is now talking about it.

The residents at Central Park Lodge fell 10 per cent short of the recommended rate, while the participation rate of staff was about 40 per cent. Though low, such a participation rate is average for nursing homes, Ontario's chief coroner Dr. James Young told The Record in June.

According to testimony at the inquest, the vaccine is 80 per cent effective in reducing deaths and 60 per cent effective in preventing serious complications in the elderly.

Assuming the accuracy of such statistics, it is alarming



Phil Wright

those in their care.

Besides, it's not as if these shots are unusually intrusive or unbearably painful.

Currently, Waterloo's regional health unit is strongly rec-

ommending nursing, practical nursing, personal support worker students and staff receive flu vaccinations, said Conestoga's health, safety and environmental co-ordinator, Kim Radigan.

Not to imply the lack of vaccination is solely responsible for the large number of deaths, but surely increased and earlier participation would have mitigated the severity of the outbreak.

Common sense should dictate those responsible for the care of the elderly would wholeheartedly endorse any reasonable effort to ensure the safety of

Common sense should dictate those responsible for the care of the elderly . . . to ensure the safety of those in their care.

ommending nursing, practical nursing, personal support worker students and staff receive flu vaccinations, said Conestoga's health, safety and environmental co-ordinator, Kim Radigan.

These health sciences programs at Conestoga College have been selected due to the programs' placements in such community institutions as hospitals, nursing homes and chronic care institutions.

At the present time, paramedic, health office operations, occupational/physiotherapy assistant, as well as early childhood education students require vaccinations, says Radigan, but none of these programs require flu vaccinations at this time.

This recommendation affects approximately 475 students in the nursing, practical nursing and personal support worker programs, according to Radigan.

Surprisingly, said Radigan, some students, as well as staff, are resistant to receiving the flu shots.

Some feel the shots will give them the flu, a number of people just don't want to get the shots and some have a fear of the actual injection. However, in fairness, some students have legitimate medical reasons for not receiving the flu vaccine.

Though a minority of health-care workers hold these fears, such misconceptions about side effects and a genuine fear about the vaccine are startling.

What is even more alarming is that such a non-intrusive precaution is so fundamental to the health and safety of their clients — the elderly.

In all probability, the majority of health-care workers and students wouldn't hesitate to receive the vaccine knowing such an obligation is recommended. However, in cases such as the nursing home tragedy, the profession is put under the proverbial microscope. When questionable decisions are made adversely affecting patients, the entire profession is unfavourably painted with a broad brush.

Common sense should dictate that health-care workers receive flu shots. Legislation shouldn't even be necessary, but unfortunately it is. Apparently the adage, that you can't legislate common sense, has been validated.

You can run but you can't hide

Students have few options in repaying their loans

By Jeanette Everall

Take the money and run. That's what one Conestoga college graduate did when he couldn't secure a job and was faced with paying back his student loans.

Unfortunately, Fred Miller found out the hard way how persistent the government can be when trying to recover student debts.

Miller said his defaulted loan was handed off to a collection agency, which eventually found him and garnished his income tax return.

"They took over \$3,000 of income tax to make up for some of my loan," said Miller, who has since paid back his student loan of \$4,400.

"I thought the money would be written off. I thought if I was moving around (the government) would eventually give up on the

money, but they didn't," said Miller, who is currently working on a second diploma at Conestoga.

After graduating from the appliance service technician program in 1994, Miller said he moved to Vancouver Island, but during his two-year stay he was unable to find a job. His financial situation made it impossible to pay off his student loan, he said.

For many students graduating with a deficit, finding a job to pay back loans can be a big concern. However, when it comes time to repay the student debt, students have few options.

"Student relief right now is basi-

cally up to the student," said Jeff Howell, assistant estate administrator at BDO Dunwoody in Kitchener. "The student has to notify the bank that they are in financial despair."

Banks do forgive students loans,

or trying to get another loan is the final option for students, but without a job, Howell asks, how is the bank going to secure a \$10,000 or \$20,000 loan if there is no income?

"Most students do outsource to parents or relatives for the money," he said.

If the student tries to amalgamate a loan, it is up to the financial institution to determine whether it is

going to accept the loan or not, based on the student's credit report. Howell said if the student has a co-signer who is willing to sign for the student to obtain a loan to pay out the student loan, then it's up to the bank.

However, waiting until after graduation can result in defaulting on the amount owing. While in school there are some choices for students to help eliminate some of the debt awaiting them after convocation.

For some students, taking on a part-time job helps to reduce some financial pressure, but Karen Ritinger of student services said she wouldn't recommend it for every student.

"For some people, just going to school is enough and they shouldn't take on anymore," said Ritinger. "Some people can work a part-time job, but for other students a part-time job could be very detrimental to their ability to do well in school."

Ritinger said while paying off debt is a concern, most of the stu-

dents she sees at student services are seeking advice about current financial issues.

"Usually what we do here at student services is try to connect them with some resources such as checking out if they are on OSAP or if they qualify for any bursaries or awards."

Information about money available to students through awards and bursaries can be obtained at the financial aid office, said Ritinger.

For students like Fred Miller, exploring financial aid through scholarships or bursaries may never have been a consideration.

"My idea of a scholarship is it's for people with high marks," said Miller. "As for bursaries, I hadn't even heard of them."

Miller said he intends to find out more about funds available through the financial aid office.

Miller said he was pleased with the government's willingness to issue him another loan so that he can upgrade his skills.

Currently in year two of the electrical engineering technician program, he said he is not concerned about finding a job to pay back his latest student loan.

"If I am successful in this course, I will be able to get a good job," said Miller, who is already a licensed electrician. "I don't feel I will have any problem getting a job."

As for paying back the new loan, Miller said he is in a better situation because he is more settled than he was in 1994.

"I want to change my living situation so that I don't have creditors on my back," he said.

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Reputation demands high-quality teachers

But hiring process is not too complex

By Talisha Matheson

Part-time instructors need to meet certain criteria before they can teach at Conestoga College.

David Stewart, director of continuing education, said the instructor's qualifications depend on the program.

He said the general level instructor must know how to do the things in the particular course and must be able to demonstrate the required skills. He said technical programs suggest the instructor have a master's degree or an equivalent to a master's of education.

"The basic thing is that they have to know how to teach," said Stewart.

Stewart said the instructors who want to teach a continuing education course at Conestoga College write a proposal to administration stating what they want to teach and the length of the course. They must also submit a resume stating their education and experience.

"Instructors take a crash course in classroom survival," said Stewart. "This is very useful."

Teachers apply to the college and continuing education does background checks, Stewart said.

Stewart said his plate is full with ideas for other courses.

If someone comes and says they have 25 people who want to do a specific activity or course, then continuing education has to find a qualified teacher, Stewart said.

"We will sometimes go out and beat around the bush for teachers," Stewart said.

Part-time teachers are paid based on a specific formula, which takes into consideration, their qualifications, experience and education, Stewart said.

"The result is their salary."

Stewart said he would like Conestoga to be known for having teachers to teach adults.

"We want to bring in good technical trainers and maintain our good reputation," Stewart said.

Travel student finds perks in part-time studies

By Talisha Matheson

Karry Litchy, a part-time Conestoga College travel and tourism student, finds working two jobs, going to school and living on her own a hard task.

"I find it hard at times, but it's worth it," said Litchy.

David Stewart, director of continuing education, says being overwhelmed is a typical symptom for any student.

The 22-year-old student is half way through the two-year part-time travel and tourism program and finds it difficult to keep her head above water most of the time.

Litchy, who began the program in September 1998, said she encouraged herself to get into the program because it was something she always wanted to do.

Litchy said being a part-time student has its benefits and its downfalls.

"The benefits are that I can work at the same time and I can choose what campus I want to be at."

She said the downfalls are that it will be harder for her to find a job with only a certificate compared to having a diploma from a full-time program.

Stewart said the diploma versus the certificate is the same issue as the degree versus the diploma.

He said if someone has a certificate rather than a diploma, that doesn't mean they will not find a job once they graduate. It's based on knowledge.

"No one is disadvantaged for going to school part time," Stewart said.

Litchy said with school, work and paying the bills, it overwhelms her sometimes and that's why she's only a part-time student.

Stewart said counselling help is available to the part-time students, but not to the extent that is offered to full-time students.

"We are not in the position to provide counsel for part-time stu-

dents like administration is for full-time students," Stewart said.

He said student services is open for consultation to the full-time students only and is not open in the evenings for the part-time students.

Stewart said if administration is approached they will give counsel, however. He added if a student needs help, administration will not turn him/her away.

"We will do what we can," he said.

Litchy works at LaSenza and Suzy Shier at the Cambridge

"The benefits are that I can work at the same time and I can choose what campus I want to be at."

Karry Litchy,
part-time travel and tourism
student

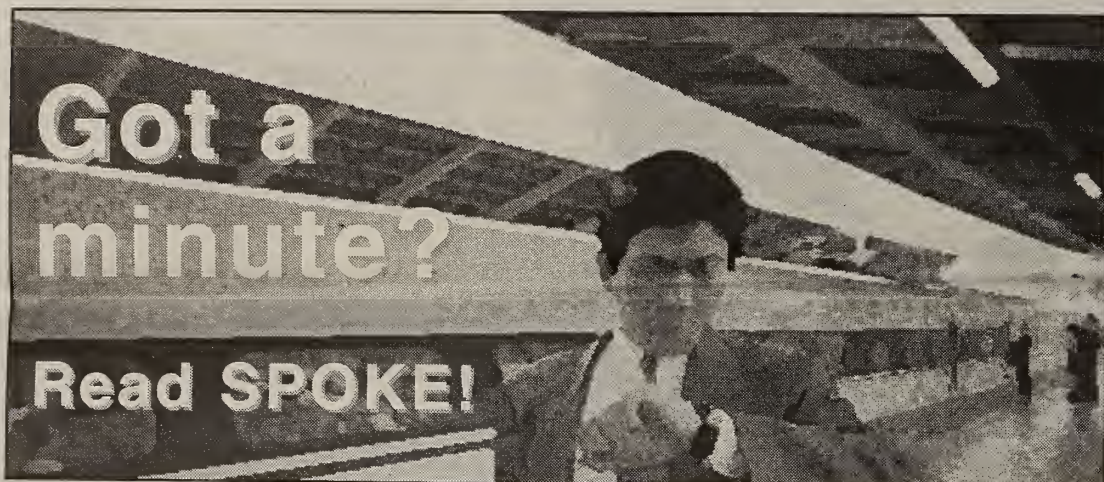
Centre. She puts in over 50 hours a week, sometimes working 13 hours a day. She also works at other LaSenza stores in Waterloo and Guelph.

"I have school to pay for, gas, rent and food," she said. "And that doesn't even include clothes and other things."

When asked where she sees herself five years from now, Litchy said she wants to be working as a travel consultant and wants to travel around the world.

"I don't want to work for myself," Litchy said. "There's too much stress and I wouldn't enjoy it."

Litchy is looking forward to graduating from this program so she can begin her career as a travel consultant.



"I have a great paying job, a workplace that appreciates and respects me because of the uniqueness of my education, and a future that brings a smile to my face..."

Scott O'Neil, TMIP Graduate '99

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Help us reach our goal of 1000 food items.



K-W Little Theatre redefines a classic

By Tannis Fenton

Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre is giving a new spin on an old classic.

William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet will surprise people anticipating a more conventional presentation, said Elizabeth Webb who is playing Juliet in the play.

People will be expecting a traditional 16th century look to it, however director Roberto Machado decided to use an Asian motif for the play.

He said he's using that motif to bring about an understanding of family obligation where a feud, such as the one between the Capulets and the Montagues, can exist.

"I believe that we still have a preconceived notion about Asia that will stimulate understanding," said Machado, president of the K-W Little Theatre, which is located at 9 Princess St. E., Waterloo.

Mandarin jackets and other Asian clothing make up the costumes.

"I think the costumes are going to throw a lot of people off," said Webb.

But the costumes aren't the only things that make this production of Romeo and Juliet different.

"I'm bringing a rather transgressive approach to the play," said Machado.

He said he used a lot of cross-



Tybalt (in red), played by Daryl Kropt, and Benvolio, played by David McCormick, battle during the Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre's production of Romeo and Juliet.

(Photo by Beverley Grondin)

gender casting. A woman is playing Mercutio, a character that is usually played by a man.

"It's not the idea of a woman playing a man," the 29-year-old said. "It's a woman playing a woman in what is historically thought to be a male role.

Although the K-W Little Theatre's interpretation of Romeo and Juliet is different, the play remains timeless because conflict is one of its dominant themes.

Romeo and Juliet lends itself to this era where there are situations like Kosovo and Bosnia, Machado

said. The similar theme is the idea of two households fighting for nothing, which is the prologue to the play.

"Nowhere is this type of conflict more apparent than Northern Ireland," said Machado, "where you have Protestants and Catholics (conflicting)."

Because there has been a steady stream of bloodshed throughout history, Machado said Romeo and Juliet is worthy of exploring, no matter what generation you're in.

The play's set, which was designed by Machado, is also different. He came up with the idea while wandering through Waterloo Park in March.

The stage is on the floor, which is covered by four cubic yards of sand, while the seats are surrounding it on the platform above.

There are a lot of martial arts and combats, so the sand is used to prevent actors from getting hurt.

Approximately \$2,400 of the \$4,000 budget was spent on the set. One thousand dollars was raised through local sponsors who wanted to support the theatre.

But as different as the play's motif and set are, Machado said the performances are what make

Romeo and Juliet unique.

Webb originally intended to be an extra in the play, but she was offered the lead role of Juliet after auditioning.

She said she wasn't sure if she would take it because she was afraid. The only acting background she had was as a witch in a Halloween play in sixth grade.

"I thought acting was easy, but it's one of the most genuine things someone can do," said the fourth-year English student at Wilfrid Laurier University.

Webb said she brings excitement to her character.

Paul Moukperian, 22, has experience in theatre, especially acting in dramatic roles. He recently played a dual role in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night.

The University of Waterloo math student, who plays Romeo, said after studying his character, he was better able to define his role.

Machado said an actor's work involves taking words from a piece of paper and building a person out of them.

Romeo and Juliet's actors have done a phenomenal job, he said.

Everyone involved in the play is a volunteer.

Romeo and Juliet will be playing at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday of each week starting Sept. 16 and finishing Oct. 2. To reserve tickets call 886-0660.

For additional stories see page 12

The 5th Annual Craft and Hobby Show/Sale

DON'T LEAVE IT TO THE LAST MINUTE!!

Start working on those crafts for the 5th Annual Craft and Hobby Show/Sale to be held on Thursday, November 18, 1999, Doon Campus, in the main cafeteria from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Vendor applications will be available to present employees, students, retirees and immediate family members of present employees. Vendor table fee will be \$10 per vendor with a maximum of two participants per table.

Please contact Erica Stoermer at extension 399 for more information.

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For more information, contact Joan Magazine, the workshop facilitator.

WORKSHOP

Concert draws big crowd

By Lesley Turnbull

A large line of people formed outside the recreation centre at Conestoga College, even before the doors were scheduled to open for I Mother Earth's live performance.

"Approximately 700 to 800 people (showed up)," said Patty Stokes, entertainment manager for the Doon Student Association (DSA).

The college was the 10th stop on the group's 20-venue tour to promote their new CD titled, Blue Green Orange.

Left Pencey performed before I Mother Earth took centre stage, drawing rave reviews.

"(Left Pencey) sold a lot of CD's (that night)," said Stokes.

The DSA threw Molson Canadian T-shirts and hats as well as Student Price Cards (SPC) and

SPC sample packs into the crowd.

During I Mother Earth's first song, people near the front started body surfing and moshing.

Stokes said crew members for the band commented that security made many good saves.

"A couple of people were escorted out but there were no problems (with those who were asked to leave)," she said. "Security did an excellent job."

One student ended up passing out after being kicked in the head by a person who was body surfing through the crowd.

"An ambulance was called and first aid was administered," said Stokes.

"He's fine now. He only has a bruise on his head."

Stokes said it was nice to get a big Canadian band like I Mother Earth to play at the college.

"It (the concert) kicked ass."



(From left to right) Jagori Tanna, guitarist and background vocalist; Bruce Gordon, bassist; Brian Byrne, lead singer; and Christian Tanna, drummer. (Photo submitted)

I Mother Earth - BGO

By Lesley Turnbull

On Oct. 14, Serial Joe will be opening for I Mother Earth at the Lyric nightclub in downtown Kitchener. Brian Byrne, lead singer for I Mother Earth, said the band is very close and in touch with choosing who will open for them.

We thought it would be a good show (with Serial Joe), said Byrne. "Their crowd is not necessarily the same crowd as ours but I think, sometimes, that people can go overboard with that. You know, having bands that are exactly alike."

He feels having different bands open for them makes the shows interesting.

"It opens peoples' eyes sometimes because you can't really grow as a listener if you don't listen to all kinds of things."

The band is touring to promote their new CD titled Blue Green Orange.

Byrne joked that the CD was his best work because it was his first.

"Spiritually for me, it was a huge thing because I was completing a definite part of my life," he said. "It was like this is what I have been working for all along and now this one section is done."

Musically, Byrne said he went through a growth period while working with the other members of the band: Jagori Tanna, guitarist and background vocalist; Christian Tanna, drummer; and

Bruce Gordon, bassist.

"I came into it, I guess, with an ability to sing but (now) I'm way beyond where I started. Even the way I think about music is totally different now."

Byrne compared the experience to going to another country with a different language and being completely immersed in it.

"You have to pick up on something."

The design of the CD booklet was the band's idea.

Helpful

"We were overseeing everything with the company who actually put it together," Byrne said. "The company was incredibly helpful and they were really good at putting it together, but we had a definite thing we were going for."

The title for the album was an idea of Christian's, introduced to the rest of the band during preproduction at a writing retreat in Stony Lake, Ont.

"He (Christian) said 'what do you think of Blue Green Orange' and we all kind of sat with it," Byrne said. "It was very visual . . . and had a lot of possibilities."

For their single, Summertime in the Void, Byrne was coerced by the other band members to run on a treadmill for the video.

"I run all the time so the guys said 'oh, you like to run, well why don't you run on a treadmill for the video.'"

The video for their next single All Awake is supposed to air

around Sept. 30

"The new video for All Awake was a breeze, a walk in the park comparatively speaking (to Summertime in the Void)."

Byrne said the band chose Summertime in the Void and All Awake as their singles because they feel strongly about those two songs and because they show what the band is about.

"(Summertime in the Void and All Awake say) this is I Mother Earth," said Byrne.

All Awake was the first song that Byrne wrote with the band. During the audition process, Jagori asked Byrne to take a look at the song and see if they could come up with a melody for it.

"For the longest time there was nothing else but this guitar and melody kind of thing," said Byrne. "It's one of my favourite songs."

On Sept. 13, the band performed on Open Mike with Mike Bullard on national television.

Weird experience

For Byrne, the experience was weird. Performing on television was different from a live concert situation.

Usually when they do shows, the crowd is there and they walk on stage and start and that's it. But on Mike Bullard they walked out and there were bright lights.

"There is not much of an environment," said Byrne, "and then the people are so far away from you, even though they are excited and they are clapping."

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TRAVEL CUTS

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: Study Skills

Knowing how to study efficiently does not always come naturally. Students who want to learn and who are eager to do well in college do not always know what to do. Many students do not know how much to study or how to use their time wisely. They may not know how to read college-level textbooks. Absorbing and remembering information from lectures can be difficult, especially if they are not familiar with the lecture style of teaching. Many potentially good students lack basic skills. They may not be able to read well enough for college-level material, or have vague notions about English grammar. Many students have difficulty writing their ideas clearly. To meet these challenges, Student Services offers several study skill workshops to help students gain the skills they need to succeed. Good study habits allow us to work more efficiently. Students who have been taught study methods get better grades with fewer hours of study. It is not how much you study but how well.

- When should you seek help with study skills?
- When you feel overwhelmed.
- When you want to reduce your study time.
- When you feel disorganized.
- When too many distractions reduce your concentration.
- When you want to take better notes and read more effectively.
- When exams approach.
- Anytime!

A Message from Student Services (Room 2B02)

College adviser a matchmaker

By Linda Wright

A perfect match is what Charlie Matjanec, employment adviser in special needs services, tries to create between the learning-disabled student and potential employers.

Matjanec is with the learning opportunities project, which is part of a pilot project designed to test new support services to increase the academic success of students with specific learning disabilities.



Matjanec

Conestoga College is one of eight sites at post-secondary institutions in Ontario to receive provincial funding totaling \$30 million for the project. Conestoga will receive

approximately \$2.7 million over a four-year period.

Matjanec, who started as employment adviser with the project in January, helps learning-disabled students be fully contributing members of the workforce.

"My students don't want to be labeled; they want to be part of the workforce," Matjanec says.

In a class called Employment Issues for the Disabled, Matjanec discusses the human rights issues of his students in an employment situation. He also discusses the rights of employers.

Matjanec helps students to market themselves to employers by assisting them to develop presentation skills, write resumes and prepare for job interviews.

Matjanec tries to build upon the students' strengths. For example, he would format his

classes to a more visual learning environment for a student that might have a problem with processing information in a lecture. The use of diagrams and charts might be more useful in this situation.

Matjanec invites employers to class to speak about how they, as people hiring the learning disabled, perceive a person with a learning disability. The student learns what to expect in an interview and prepares accordingly.

The majority of students come to Matjanec to ask his advice on when they should tell a prospective employer about their learning disability? There are advantages and disadvantages to telling an employer at any certain time and Matjanec discusses each scenario with the students.

Each student is an individual and a time to tell an employer is also different for each student, said Matjanec.

Legally, an employer can ask a student if he/she has a learning disability when the job might require specific accommodations for that student.

The employer might be concerned about the accommodation the student requires. Issues that are addressed also include informing the employer about grants for special software or what the employer can expect when they hire this student.

Matjanec meets one-on-one with a student and coaches or guides them as employment issues come up.

He continues to see the students as they graduate and he tries to make the transition from college to work as comfortable as he can for the students.

"I thoroughly enjoy working with the students and it's an energy I can feed off," he says.

CLASSIFIED

The AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County is seeking volunteers to help with many areas of our organization.

We are looking for people interested in training for our Speaker's Bureau and Harm Reduction Outreach both in the areas of Education and Health Promotion; Day-to-day reception, computer and office support; Buddy Program, as well as special events throughout the year. Our next volunteer training session is coming soon. For more information on these and other volunteer opportunities, please contact Bruce Elliott, Co-ordinator of Volunteers, at 763-2255 extension 33 or check out our Web page at:

www.aids.guelph.org

Great Earth full of vitamins

Local store owners say supplements are for everyone

By Tannis Fenton

Vitamins are important to everyone, especially students, said Ted Odd, co-owner of a new vitamin store in Kitchener.

Great Earth Vitamins opened its doors at 207 King St. W. Sept. 10.

"The most important thing to realize is we can't get enough of our daily recommended limits in our food supply these days because of soil depletion," said co-owner Cindy Odd. "(Vitamin) supplementation is for everyone."

Ted said he generally recommends vitamin B for students, who have to cope with stress.

"Vitamin B helps with the nervous system," he said.

Cindy and Ted Odd moved from North Bay, where they lived for 25 years, to open the franchise.

Cindy worked with the developmentally handicapped and Ted managed a Great Earth store in Sudbury.

But before they could open their store, Cindy said she and her husband went to California for three weeks where they learned about marketing, advertising and other aspects of running a Great Earth franchise.

"It's not just pulling products off the shelf and selling them," she said. "It's (about) arranging your store so that it's attractive and knowing how to reach your target market."

Once the Odds chose their location in Kitchener, a lot more work had to be done.

"We (renovated) the front (76 sq. metres of the store)," said Cindy.

A lot of work was put into the renovation, a venture that was not cheap, she added.

Great Earth offers a variety of vitamins and mineral supplements, including a line for athletes and features a weight loss section.

The company was started in 1971 by Earl Mindell, who wrote the Vitamin Bible. Great Earth makes all of its products.

DISCUSSION AND NETWORKING GROUP

FOR

GAY, LESBIAN OR BISEXUAL STUDENTS

MONTHLY MEETINGS BEGIN:

Wednesday, Sept. 29

When: 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Where: Student Services, Room 2B02

For More Information, Contact: Barb Kraler, Student Services

Romeo and Juliet gets Asian spin

By Beverley Grondin

The cast and crew of the Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre have triumphed in their adaptation of William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Through the direction of Roberto Machado, they have produced a well-acted, well-choreographed performance that will leave audiences delighted.

For those who are not familiar with the story, the two main characters, Romeo and Juliet, fall in love at a party given at Juliet Capulet's home. The obstacle in their relationship is that Romeo is a Montague and his family are sworn enemies of the Capulets. The action takes place in the fair city of Verona, and what begins as a story of romance, ends in

tragedy and sorrow.

According to Machado, he sees this story as more than a feud between two families. He sees it as a reflection of some of the troubles affecting society today, which is why this 400-year-old tale is still relevant.

"This is a story about Catholics, Protestants, Serbs and Kosovars, Jews and Arabs, Timorese and Indonesians, you and me," writes Machado in the introduction of the program.

Those looking for a traditional portrayal of the timeless classic will be in for a surprise; Machado has chosen to put an Asian spin on this tale of star-crossed lovers. This theme was achieved through many small details, such as the costuming, the use of martial arts

for the fight scenes and oriental-style melodies during the scenes at the Capulets' party, as well as during intermission.

Machado has also chosen to alter some of the main characters, turning those traditionally known to be male, into female characters. Mercutio, Romeo's friend, is one such character.

This was an interesting choice, which lends itself well to the story, because Mercutio's dialogue is often laced with male-oriented sexual undertones. Through talented acting and amusing characterization by Indrani Margolin, the transition into a female role was well achieved.

It was amusing to see the relationship between Benvolio, played by David McCormick, and

Mercutio as more than just a platonic friendship. At the end of one scene, it is implied that Benvolio is about to take Mercutio to bed.

However, the deviance from the traditional did cause some confusion. Although it was obvious that Mercutio was intended to be a female for this production, Machado chose to stick strictly to the script, and the character was still referred to as a man in the dialogue.

Having chosen to stray from the norm, there should have been no qualms with making minor adjustments to the script.

In his first performance with the Little Theatre, Paul Moukperian played the lamentable Romeo convincingly. Whether he was depressed for having lost the love

of Rosaline at the beginning of the play, or heated with anger after Tybalt, played by Daryl Kropf, slew his friend Mercutio, his emotions reached the audience convincingly.

Elizabeth Webb played Juliet and portrayed the character as an innocent, sweet and almost timid girl. Her interpretation of the character is slightly different from others, where Juliet is often shown as a bold, defiant and confident young woman. However, Webb's debut performance with the K-W Little Theatre was impressive.

For an amateur production on a limited budget, the show overflowed with talent. It will be interesting to see what the Little Theatre has in store for its next production.

Student Services Study Skills Workshops Fall 1999

Facilitator: Shawna Bernard

No Registration Required

Topic	Date	Time	Room
Study Tips and Techniques	Mon., Sept. 27	11:30-12:30	3A505
	Thur., Sept. 30	12:30-1:30	3B14
Time Management	Mon., Oct. 4	11:30-12:30	3A505
	Thur., Oct. 7	12:30-1:30	3B14
Multiple Choice Test-taking	Mon., Oct. 18	12:30-1:30	2A411
	Thur., Oct. 21	12:30-1:30	3B14
Tips on Making Presentations	Mon., Nov. 1	11:30-12:30	3A620
	Thur., Nov. 4	12:30-1:30	1D17
Preparing for Final Exams	Mon., Nov. 29	11:30-12:30	3A620
	Thur., Dec. 2	12:30-1:30	1D17
	Mon., Dec. 6	12:30-1:30	2A411

If you have any questions or concerns, please come to Student Services, Rm 2B02.

Groovy baby, yeah

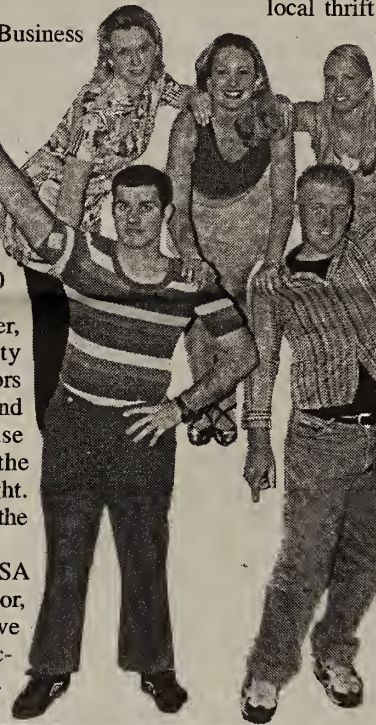
First biz bash has '70s theme

By Lesley Turnbull

The Conestoga Business Student Association wants to hear people saying "yeah, baby, yeah" at their first "biz bash" of the year at Stages nightclub in Kitchener on Sept. 30 at 9 p.m.

Many Austin Power, Dr. Evil and Felicity Shagwell impersonators are expected to attend the event because Austin Powers is the theme for the night. Although, that is not the only option.

Teresa Bricker, CBSA promotion co-ordinator, said students don't have to dress up as characters from the Austin Powers movies. Anything that looks like it is from the '60s or '70s is fine, she said.



Top row (left to right): Katie Henhoeffer, Lisa Cashmore and Teresa Bricker. Bottom row: Andreas Kyriacou and Trevor Topping.

Bricker suggests looking for a costume at a local thrift shop. Prizes will be awarded for the best costumes.

Nuts will be passed out to the first 100 women and bolts to the first 100 men. When they find their match, they will win a prize by going to the DJ booth.

Katie Henhoeffer, vice-president for CBSA, said they are aiming for 1,000 people to attend.

A bus will transport students living in residence to Stages and back for free. The bus will leave residence at 9 p.m. for Stages and will bring students back at 12:30 a.m. and 2 a.m.

Business student class reps who signed up to help with the event will be taking tickets at the front door.

"It's going to be a groovy time," Henhoeffer said.

Tickets are available at the CBSA office in 1D14-D and through class reps. They are \$6 in advance or \$8 at the door. Students must be 19 years of age to attend.

Read Spoke

Blood: the gift of life

By Lesley Turnbull

Steve Coleman donated blood for the very first time at Conestoga College's blood donor clinic in 1998.

"It made me feel good," said the DSA vice-president of student affairs.

"I always wanted to (donate blood)."

This year the clinic will be held on Sept. 27 in the Sanctuary from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It will be operated by Canadian Blood Services.

Coleman said there is always a need for blood.

A brochure by Canadian Blood Services asks potential donors, "If you knew you could save a life, would you?"

The brochure contains information on donating blood and is available in the DSA office in the Sanctuary.

The brochure lists the criteria to be a blood donor, which include having something to eat and getting adequate sleep before donating.

The brochure also states that a donor cannot get any disease by donating blood and needles are sterile, used once and discarded.

The usual blood collection is about half a litre, which your body soon replaces, says the brochure.

Coleman said there is a sign-up sheet in the DSA office for those who want to donate, but people can also just walk in.

"It (the sign-up sheet) gives Canadian Blood Services an idea as to how many people are going to show up."

Beds are provided for donors during and after giving blood and juice and cookies are available.

Photo and signature identification is required.

Here is your opportunity to get involved in the community

Volunteer Fair

Wednesday, September 29

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

The Sanctuary

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE
LOOKS GREAT ON A RESUME!



Be sure to attend

CAREER FAIR '99

Wednesday, September 29, 1999

10:00am - 3:00 pm

Bingeman Park Conference Centre

Victoria Street, Kitchener

- Final year students - employers actually start recruiting final year students in September. Wouldn't it be great to have a job all ready to go to once you've completed your program?
- For first and second year students - attend the Fair to research employers, careers, and to learn what skills are required for success in your chosen career.
- On September 29, over 200 employers will be under one roof, eager to talk to you and to review your resume. Don't miss this big, busy, exciting event!!
- For a listing of attending employers, pick up a copy of The Employer Guidebook on September 22, in The Student Employment Office - Room 2B04.

* This is a business-like event ... please dress appropriately *



10 Steps for successful attendance at:

Career Fair '99

1. Wear business-like attire
2. Research the employers
3. Have your resume critiqued (at the Student Employment Office) prior to the Fair, and have lots of copies on the day
4. Go through the Fair alone
5. Attend the Fair early enough to see all the employers you want to contact
6. Have questions ready: see the Employer Guidebook for some ideas
7. Be courteous and patientsmile!
8. Watch your language and behaviour as you travel through the Fair
9. Prepare a short "commercial" about yourself
10. HAVE A GOOD TIME!!!

Condors run over Royals

By Nicole Furlong

The Conestoga Condors started their season off on the right foot by running over the Redeemer Royals defeating the Ancaster team 2-1 in the first game of women's varsity soccer action on Sept. 14.

The Condors, last year's western division champions for the Ontario Colleges Athletic Association, got off to a slow start in the first half scoring no goals, but bounced back in the second.

Gena Wiersma of the Royals scored the first goal of the game with only a minute left to play in the first half.

The Condors came out flying in the second half with Charlene Humphrey scoring after 10 minutes of play to tie it up.

With five minutes left in the game, Daniela Sirio netted the final goal, unassisted.

Despite a valiant effort by the Royals, Conestoga ended the game with a final score of 2-1.

The two teams will not meet again during regular-season play as Redeemer plays in the central-west division of the OCAA and Conestoga in the west division.

However, if both teams qualify for the finals, which they strive for according to Royals coach Tom Sauder, they could meet again.

When asked about his visions for his team this season, Sauder said, "Things are looking wonderful for the team this year." He added, however, his team has to work on improving their fitness.

Conestoga's coach Geoff Johnstone was very pleased with the outcome of the game.

"We've got a lot of rookies and a lot of work to do, but I think we will be very competitive and have a good chance at a playoff spot," he said.

Johnstone added, "We played a solid game all the way through."

Sirio, who is co-captain of the team, said, "2-1 is an amazing win for our first game."

She also commented on the number of new players on the team this year saying, "We have a lot of new players that are willing to work. I think our team's going to come along well."

Women's varsity action resumes at home on Oct. 12 at 4:30 p.m. when they play Lambton.

Your 1999 women's varsity soccer team

This year's outdoor women's soccer team members are as follows:

Nancy Tucker - goalie
Jen Melnyk - defensive midfield
Charlene Humphrey - defensive midfield
Erin Frank - midfield/defence
Jen Pisani-Donga - midfield
Kristie Pereira - stopper
Daniela Sirio (ass't captain) - offensive midfield
Angela Papazatos - forward/midfield
Beth Gellatlyyk - midfield
Erin Marshall - defence
Julia Maier - midfield
Jolene Theriault - midfield
Rebecca Miller (captain) - sweeper
Tanya Listar - forward
Sherry Hergott - midfield
Diana Jailall - forward
Kitty Bounsanga - defence

Altes Munchen Haus
Queensmount Arena

Conestoga College Oktoberfest Night

Featuring.....
Walter Ostanek
and the Walter Ostanek Band

Thursday, October 14

7:00 pm - 1:00 am

Tickets \$10.00

Movie Night

Tuesday, October 5

8:00 pm , The Sanctuary

Admission

Free for Doon Campus students

\$3 for guests

purchase tickets at the door

Free Popcorn



Licensed event

Get some direction

read SPOKE!

Condors blank Royals 7-0

By Angela Clayfield

Though the Conestoga Condors tucked their first win under their shin pads in a 7-0 decision over Ancaster's Redeemer Royals Sept. 15, head coach Geoff Johnstone hopes the varsity men's soccer team doesn't expect to win every game as easily.

Despite the win, Johnstone says the team "took it too casual at times" and he would like to see more discipline in the future.

Part of the win could be attributed to the fact that nine of the players are veterans and 12 are rookies whereas Redeemer had a largely rookie team. Five out of their 12 players were new to the team.

Before the game, Royals' assistant coach Dave Mantel said that he would like to see an improvement over last season. But at the end of the game he said he had expected the rookies to take time to get used to playing.

"I guess we're still in our learning games," Mantel said.

Mantel added it was probably difficult for his team to keep their heads in the game in the second half, when the Condors scored most of their goals.

Forward Danny Mihelic scored three of the Condors' goals. Dan Shamon, Derhan Sherifali, Francios Heu and team captain Paul Mouradian all took one point each.

This first game of the season was a cross-over game because



Conestoga Condors Paul Mouradian (right) evades Redeemer Royal Steve Eckersly during the men's soccer season opener on Sept. 15. The Condors went on to win the game 7-0.

(Photo by Angela Clayfield)

Redeemer is in the central western division and Conestoga is in the western division. This was also Redeemer's first season with uni-

versity status, however, the victory counted in the standings, awarding three points for the Condors in their division of the

Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA).

The Redeemer Royals' head coach John Hamilton said at the

start of the game that he expected his team to win, but said the playing experience was what they were after.

BLOOD DONOR CLINIC



Monday, September 27, 1999

11:00 a.m. To 3:30 p.m.

The Sanctuary.

Give the Gift of Life

Call or visit the DSA to sign up

Opinions count:
See Commentary on page 4

New in the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) at Doon Campus

A Data Video Projector for *student presentations* is now permanently located in Group Room 5 in the LRC. Students may book it in advance at the audio-visual counter.

Thanks go to the DSA for a generous donation towards this purchase!

NewsScan contains a series of fulltext databases including: the Toronto Star, London Free Press, Kitchener-Waterloo Record, Hamilton Spectator, and more. The French interface contains French language newspapers. Go to NewsScan from the desktop on the computers in the LRC. We have NewsScan on trial until March 2000, so pick up an evaluation form at the Information Desk in the LRC and tell us what you think of it.

Britannica Online includes the encyclopedia, web links, and more. To check it out, click on bookmarks on the LRC's Internet browser.

More news....

EBSCOHost - a system that includes thousands of magazine and journal articles - is now offering some of their articles in full image format so you can see all the pictures, charts and graphs. You can still download these articles to disk, print them out, or email them to your account!

HRDC (Human Resources Development Canada) - has installed a computer in the LRC that contains links to the HRDC job bank as well as career exploration software.

Pitcher's hit goes foul



Leigh Marostega, Conestoga's pitcher, wacks a ball foul during a home game at Conestoga College on Sept. 14. Marostega also had one home run, a triple and four runs batted in.

(Photo by Brad Dugard)

Fatigue a factor in women's loss

By Angela Clayfield

Last year's Ontario champions, the Mohawk Mountaineers, defeated the Conestoga Condors 3-1 in women's varsity soccer action Sept. 21.

Mohawk assistant coach Keith Jukes said it was a tight game and that the Condors played well, noting several nice saves by Condor goalie Nancy Tucker. "Good strong goaltending from (Conestoga)," Jukes said. "The girls played very, very well."

The loss makes Conestoga's record 1-1-2.

Injuries

Condors' assistant coach Sanjeev Dhanapala agreed the girls played well, but attributed part of the loss to fatigue since the team had played three games in four days and some team members were playing injured.

"The goal right at the end of the game really put a downside to a good effort," Dhanapala said.

If the team had capitalized on all its chances, he said, the final score might have been different.

"If we had buried them at the start of the game, it would have been a totally different game," Dhanapala said. "But we didn't bury them and we had to pay the price."

It's still early in the season, but



Daniela Sirio (front left) and an unidentified Mohawk player chase after the ball during a game at Conestoga College Sept. 21.

(Photo by Angela Clayfield)

the Condors are improving every game, he said.

"They've (rookies) come a long way," he said. "The team is

getting better and better as the games have gone on. The results haven't shown it, but the team is playing more as a team."

High scoring games begin fall semester

Conestoga teams get mixed results

By Nicole Furlong

The Conestoga Condors have taken flight in the first week of Ontario Colleges Athletic Association (OCAA) varsity action, winning in all but one division.

The scores for games played for the week of Sept. 13 are as follows:

Women's Softball

In women's softball action, Conestoga was defeated by Mohawk College on Sept. 14. The final score was 6-3.

Runs for the Condors were brought in by Debbi Bennett, Tanya Holland and Lori Walden.

The women also played a double-header on Sept. 19 against Cambrian College.

Conestoga suffered an 8-4 loss in the first game. Losing pitchers were Carrie Cruickshanks and Michelle Kirwin.

In their second game, the Condors demolished Cambrian 11-1.

Winning pitcher was Leigh

Marostega with three strikeouts. Marostega also had one homerun, a triple and four runs batted in.

The team's next softball home game will be played on Sept. 29 at 5 p.m. against Durham College.

Women's Soccer

In women's soccer action, the Condors flew over the Redeemer Royals of Ancaster, winning with a score of 2-1.

Home-team scorers were Charlene Humphrey and Daniela Sirio.

Conestoga's next home game was played on Sept. 21.

Scores will appear in next week's paper.

The next home game will be played on Sept. 27 at 5 p.m. against Fanshawe College.

Men's Soccer

In men's soccer action, the Condors trampled the Redeemer Royals, winning with a score of 7-0.

Home-team scorers were Sheref Sherifali, Paul Mouradian, Derhan Sherifali, Dan Shamon and Danny

Mihelic with three.

Grabbing the shutout was Ivica J. Abramovic and Levent Sherifali.

Conestoga's next home game was played on Sept. 23.

Scores will appear in next week's paper.

The next home game will be

played on Oct. 14 at 4:30 p.m. against London's Fanshawe College.

Exhibition Hockey

In exhibition hockey action, the Condors took a 7-5 win against the St. George Dukes of St.

George, on Sept. 17.

Goal scorers for Conestoga were Shane Spence, Jon Sukert, Greg Thede, Jamie Hickkey, Sean Murray, Darrell Woodley and Ramsey Hanlon.

The regular-season action begins Oct. 23 here at Conestoga College against Cambrian College.

